*Odyssey* Analysis Skills for the Resourceful Test Takerto Possess

**Nota Bene**: You may use your annotations and your “Elements of Art” notes on this test.

-Compare word choice and analyze connotation v. denotation (e.g. “friends” v. “companions”) and relate to the significance of the passage.

-Compare and contrast settings (imagery) and their significance (e.g. the feast at Alkinoos table at the beginning of Book IX and the feast Circe brings at the beginning of Book XII)

-Analyze the appearance v. reality of a character (e.g. Circe) using specific language from passages (e.g. “queenly” and “fair-haired,” but also “guileful”)

-Compare two characters using specific language from passages

-Analyze recurring similes/metaphors/themes (e.g. Bow and arrow makes an appearance in the Cyclops’ cave, and when Circe describes Scylla) and their significance(s) in the text.

-Analyze epithets and/or recurring phrases in different passages (“Dawn with her rosy fingers”)

-Analyze word choice (diction). Why resource-ful? Why un-happy?

-Analyze similar circumstances (e.g. Odysseus is tricky and/or pig-headed, again) and their significance.

-Analyze the role of point of view (who is telling the story), and its effect on the way events are portrayed (e.g. Odysseus is telling the story).

-Identify and analyze figurative language (i.e. repetition, metaphor, simile, symbolism, hyperbole) in a passage, and its significance in the text.

-Analyze the elements of art (line, shape, form, space, color, texture, balance, emphasis, and movement) and compare to other works of art and the text.

-Connect this analysis to the development of ideas over the course of time.

-Connect individual events to their greater significance in the text, and their meaning and implications for society/life (e.g. Odysseus as the hero; Circe as the temptress).